

Jacumba Sponsor Group Final General Meeting Minutes Of 10-27-2011

MEETING PRELIMINARIES

- Mark Ostrander called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
- Mark requested silencing all Cell Phones and Pagers and then led the pledge of allegiance.
- Mark led the Roll Call: Shirley Fisher (present), Howard Cook (present), Steve Squillaci (absent) Mark Ostrander (present), Pat Fauble (present). Mark established that there was a quorum.
- Secretary Howard Cook read minutes from the previous meeting. Motion to accept minutes by Mark Ostrander. Seconded by Pat Fauble. Vote all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions. The minutes were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mark reported writing and sending the letter about the Jacumba eye gnat infestation to Diane Jacobs and the rest of the Board of Supervisors. He reported no response as of that date. He said that perhaps the Jacumba based meeting called for Nov. 10 by Diane Jacob was the response.
- Mark reported a call for action letter to the San Diego Board of Supervisors and the County Agricultural Commissioner on the spotted Oak Borer infestation found in sixty five per cent of San Diego County's oaks. He also expressed concern because the average cost of large oak removal is about \$1600.00 per tree. To date he only had a response from the County Agriculture Department also expressing concern. Mark responded to questions by the public and the Sponsor Group as follows: They Oak Borer today can be found in Live Oak Springs and in the La Posta Creek area, but not yet in Jacumba or Boulevard. He believes unverified reports of the infestation in Tierra Del Sol. The Oak Borer, he said, is carried mostly through firewood and attacks oaks over 24 inches in diameter. He said that there is no evidence of it in other tree species. The authorities have taken no legal steps to curtail movement of firewood and he can only resort to posters and education. Tammy Daubach suggested education at the schools. Mark said that he can and has given a 30 minute presentation to schools and other groups. The public, he says, is remarkably apathetic and does not respond well to his requests for a public hearing and education. Mark said that he is continuing to survey the oak population to measure infestation. So far, he reports, Mount Laguna, Descanso and Pine Valley have really been devastated. Mark urged calls by the public to him on any infestation evidence.
- Mark reported that the "Final Report" on the Eco Station/ electrical infrastructure and Tule wind farm EIR has been released. He can provide web address to anyone who contacts him.
- Tammy Daubach reported on a very successful October First Revitalization/ Community Service District "Fall Festival", despite a heavy eye gnat infestation. Record crowds and community enthusiasm were reported.
- Howard Cook reported that wife Danielle has recently updated the Revitalization Committee's "gosandiegobackcountry.org" website and urged the public to see the changes.
- Howard Cook reported on a major development on the Jacumba Lake Restoration Project. A meeting was held on 10/27 onsite at the Lake site and at Howard and Danielle's home. Committee members in attendance were Howard and Danielle Cook, Mark Ostrander, Dave and Helen Landman, Bill Pape, Moon Barnett Visitors attending were: three members from State and SD Audubon led by Keiller Kyle from Sacramento. Also visiting were two representatives of State Fish and Game, another from US Wildlife Service and Tom Blackman of Western Field Ornithologists. The visitors had learned of our Lake Restoration Project and contacted Mark Ostrander about a visit. After a tour of the spring and Lake Site, they expressed their support of the Lake Project and promised to submit a proposal with funding to Dave Landman, Moon Barnett and the committee by the following month. They said they wanted the lake filled by next spring. Audubon and the government are interested in supporting the lake as major habitat for the endangered Tricolored Blackbird. Howard reported that Dave Landman stated his support for the restoration subject to concerns about liability, water supply and completion of his foreclosure process. Howard also reported the committee's statement that the Lake must serve public needs for recreation as well as for wildlife and bird habitat. Howard reported that Moon Barnett had earlier advised the Jacumba Water District Board on the

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Lake Project Meeting and a resolution was passed expressing support for the project. There was enthusiasm by the Sponsor Group and the public in attendance. Mark reminded the Revitalization Committee of their next meeting on December 06 at 6:30 to be held at the Library.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Mark announced the San Diego Traffic Advisory Meeting on 10/28. He said that he was not going since it did not affect us.
- Mark announced a Supervisors Meeting on 10/28 to review I-63 the General Land Use Plan. He also announced the first lawsuit against the plan.
- Mark announced that funding and assistance was underway for the Community Garden Project, but that he needed help in design and on the irrigation system. Someone suggested that Steve Squillaci might help.

UPDATES AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

- Border Patrol Update by Cory Anderson – Cory reported that a Citizens Border Patrol Academy was being formed with training to start on 11/05. He said that to start; only two people per station would be attending. He described training to include ride alongs, tours of the Otay Mesa cross border tunnels, Imperial Beach night action, etc. Cory also reminded all of the 11/08 Community Watch Meeting at the Library and at 6:00 AM. The Utralite project will be discussed. Tammy asked about the parachute incident in McCain Valley, Cory had not heard about it. Howard asked about the removal of the National Guard observer on the hill above the farm. Cory said that the observer had been moved to the much higher Airplane Mesa with a long clear sight of the Border fence. Lorrie asked about the Community Watch posters and Cory said that there were no funds. Lorrie Ostrander offered to contact a local artist to help in poster design and printing. Cory said that would be great. There were comments on the need for locking the grounds at the Highland Center to prevent illegal action there. Cory said that the fallow land south of Old 80 next to the town was growing tall weeds and wondered what to do. The group reminded him that soon it would belong to Dave Landman and he possibly would allow the Border Patrol to cut down the weeds.
- Sheriff report by Lt. Rose Kurupas Supervisor of Sheriff Functions in East County - Rose reported that she was new to her Manager position. She works out of the Julian office. She will spend time in the area and needs everyone's support. Mark asked her to send out public announcements to him as he has a local E-Mail network for distribution to the community.
- Eye Gnat Report by Bill Pape - Bill called attention to the Eye Gnat meeting to be held at the Highland Center November 10 at 2:00. Diane Jacob and six other county officials will be there to announce how they are going to implement law enforcement measures against the farm. He discussed a netting study by the Jag entomologist, Ken Osborn. This study showed 10 to 20 times more gnats than adjacent collar traps. These and other findings were going to be presented the following Friday to County Vector Control and Jim Bethke. Bill also reported that a delegation of him, Moon Barnett, Howard and Dani Cook, Steve Van Zant, and Neil Hamada were going to attend the 10/24 Supervisors meeting on eye gnat enforcement in Escondido and Jacumba. Lonna Marshall from the floor said that we would have more clout with the involvement of the Escondido eye infestation group. Bill discussed publicity and refreshments for the Jacumba Supervisors eye gnat meeting. He also agreed that all of this was bringing countywide attention to our eye gnat problem.
- Boulevard, Jacumba, La Posta Fire Safe Council and Cert by Mark Ostrander - Mark reported that he had obtained his Extra ham radio license and can now help to train others. He reminded the town about the next Fire Safe Meeting at the Jacumba Firehouse 10/31 at 6:30. Chilidogs were going to be served and Halloween candy distributed to children. New Cert training was announced. Mark has recruited two youths over 14 for Cert Training; he is looking for more recruits for this vital training. Earlier in the meeting there was a conversation on funding for fire and emergency needs. Mark said that currently the Jacumba fire station was

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pretty well equipped. Sam observed that Boulevard Fire was usually last on the equipment list. Lorrie observed that a Red Cross official at a Campo Fire meeting was appalled that the Campo and Jacumba fire stations were not equipped with emergency generators and are going to try to get a grant for obtaining them. Mark also commented that the plan for a community generator at the Highland Center was going well. He said that the Highland Center was already wired for a generator and that would save money and facilitate generator acquisition. Mark also encouraged residents to complain to Supervisor Jacob and Howard Windsor about a lack of equipment.

- **SD Gas and Electric by Cameron Durkle** – Cameron announced release of the final EIR-EIS on Eco and Tule projects. He announced that the Administrative law judge for the projects would be holding public meetings in late November. Howard Cook said that it is imperative that public comment be allowed, especially since the draft EIR meeting did not allow public comment. Cameron said that public comment is planned for these next meetings. After the local meetings, the PUC would meet in the spring for a final decision. Cameron advised that claims could be filed for the electrical blackout period this spring, but they would not be paid until a study affixing blame was complete. Cameron advised that the County allowed seven additional weekend days for Sunrise project helicopter activity. Weekend work should be complete by December first.

NON-AGENDA PRESENTATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

- It was announced that unused RX items could be dropped off at the various sheriff stations.
- In answer to a question about “reverse 911 cell phone service”, Deputy Rose said that it was not automatic, but forms for application were available for this service.
- Tammy Daubach advised that we should contact the Sheriff for weekly visitations to autistic, disabled and also frail citizens who need visitations or who might need to be found if they wander off.

Meeting was Adjourned 7:45 PM. Next Meeting November 22, 2011 6:00 pm Jacumba Library

Respectfully submitted by,
Howard Cook-Sponsor Group Member and Secretary